Howard Roffman
601 Van Ness Ave., #1042
San Francisco, CA 94102

2/16/97

Dear Howard,

Or am I thinking of a Howard who no longer exists?

It has been a long time and I have no idea of what interests you ~~or can~~ have or what can have any commercial value to Lucas.

There has lately been considerable interest in the King case, with the family coming out for a trial after 30 years and after being part of the awful plea bargain that prevented the trial. I've declined two invitations from CNN that required my going to Washington. They offered a limo but I do no unnecessary travelling any more. Developments since you were here.

Ray is not going to be around long and perhaps the interest will die then. He should have gotten a trial in 1973. I did the work. The judge held against all the evidence. He held that guilt or innocence were immaterial to what was before him because I opted to try the case against Ray and put in the acquittal case. The issues were effective assistance of counsel and knowingness in agreeing to the plea. However, the work is mine and I have it and the transcripts and it may well be all there is. I do not go into all of it but there is more than we used in court. There is what could be a fine book that could make an exceptionally good documentary, even movie, and I think the interest is there.

I'm almost 84 now. In the past year I was twice hospitalized for congestive heart and renal failure, among other things. And so far I'm still here. The 1989 heart operation was successful but left me more feeble.

With the use of stairs for access to all those records no longer safe for several years I have been making manuscript records for history on the general subject of Inside the JFK Assassination.. There is quite a bit by now. My professor friends think well of it. Much is new, some controversial

Lil was to have had a hip replacement a year and a half ago but when she went back to have it the surgeon changed her mind. We both get around but not easily. His and her canes. His and her walkers that neither uses.

I think there is something in the King/Ray stuff and nobody else has it or has done that work.

best,

Harold